IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company water has high levels of nitrate

DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO
INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR PREGNANT WOMEN
OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA

To prevent water outages in the distribution system, Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company has been using the new well (Well 7) that was placed into service on February 9, 2016, to supply domestic water. Well 07 has a history of high nitrates and produces water exceeding the nitrate maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 mg/L (nitrate as nitrogen). Results of the samples collected from the well, during 2016, exceeded the nitrate MCL of 10 mg/L (nitrate as nitrogen), and we previously provided quarterly public notification for that. A water sample collected on January 8, 2018, from Well 7, showed nitrate level of 9.6 mg/L (as nitrogen) and Well 1 showed nitrate level of 5.7 mg/L (as nitrogen) on the same date. Another water sample collected on February 6, 2018, from Well 7, showed nitrate level of 10 mg/L (as nitrogen) and Well 1 showed nitrate level of 6.2 mg/L (as nitrogen) on the same date. Another water sample collected on March 6, 2018, from Well 7, showed nitrate level of 10 mg/L (as nitrogen) Well 1 showed nitrate level of 6.0 mg/L (as nitrogen) on the same date. All results from January to March 2018 (representing the first quarter of 2018) are below or at the nitrate standard or MCL of 10 mg/L (as nitrogen). The wells have been below or at standards and we will continue to monitor them monthty and send out Quarterly notices until the levels have been below standard for at least a year. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.* Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.

- **PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD NOT CONSUME THE WATER.** *High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.*

- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further **notice.**
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.

- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems, storm water run-off, and fertilizers). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. We will let you know if the amount of nitrate is again below the limit.

The nitrate blending facility (to blend water from Wells 01, 02 and 07) is built and ready to go into service. However, we continue to experience water shortage, due to further drop in production capacity of our wells and/or mechanical problems with the wells. To supplement our supplies and keep the distribution system pressurized, we have had to haul water at times. Two of our wells needed to have new motors and pumps installed. Well 01 which is part of the nitrate blending is our biggest producer. Rising nitrate level in Well 01 is causing disruption of the nitrate blending treatment, and leading to constant shutdown of Well 07. All of our wells are now running. Despite that, we are experiencing water shortage. Therefore, **it is critical that all customers conserve water and not use any water for irrigation and outdoor activities (washing cars, etc.)**. Due to ongoing water shortage and to prevent threatened water outage, we have to use Well 07 without nitrate blending treatment and not able to provide nitrate blending treatment at this time, as previously planned. Therefore, we are on a high nitrate notification until further notice. Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company will notify you once the water supplied to you complies with nitrate MCL.

Long term solution to our water supply shortage and high nitrate problem is physical consolidation with the neighboring Frazier Park Public Utilities District (FPPUD). We are working closely with the FPPUD to accomplish that. We are also working closely with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), Division of Drinking Water to resolve issues related to the water shortage and nitrate MCL compliance.

For more information, please contact Pam Jarecki, Office Manager, Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company at (661) 245-1448 or the State Board, Division of Drinking Water at (661) 335-7315.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company.

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